

Earth First! Action Update

Issue 67 April 2000



"When technology fails, use cut 'n' paste" - Bill Gates

Resistance is Fertile

Huge numbers of different events are planned all over the world as the 'Resistance is Fertile' week of action from 1st-10th April. Events are happening in Canada, France, New Zealand, Netherlands, Russia, Belarus, USA and even the UK. Website:

www.resistanceisfertile.com

If you would like to join in the international resistance, perhaps you could stage a 'protest' at one of the sites listed below.

Despite the attempts of some local councils to stop their tenant farmers from growing GM crops, the next round of GM farm scale trials are going into the ground now. Here are the grid references:



Forage maize (★)

- * Harpenden, Hertfordshire, grid reference TL 118 130
- * Windfurd, Norfolk, grid reference TM 100 879
- * Boothby Graffoe, Lincolnshire, grid reference SK 971 586
- * Spital-in-the-street, Lincolnshire, grid reference SK 979 907
- * East Newton, Humberside, grid reference TA 263 382

Oil seed rape (●)

- * Kemley, Gloucestershire, grid reference SO 675 313
- * Laverton, Worcestershire, grid reference SP 069 360
- * Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire, grid reference SP 154 403
- * Aldminster, Warwickshire, grid reference SP 241 486
- * Upper Tysoe, Warwickshire, grid reference SP 327 437

- * Picos End, Hertfordshire, grid reference TL 068 115
- * St Oyst/Sewick, Essex, grid reference TM 119 138
- * Beckford Green, Suffolk, grid reference TM 125 650
- * Horningtoft, Norfolk, grid reference TF 932 243
- * Boothby Graffoe, Lincolnshire, grid reference SK 959 592
- * North Kelsey, Lincolnshire, grid reference TA 012 606
- * East Newton, Humberside, grid reference TA 265 382
- * Hutton Magna, North Yorkshire, grid reference NZ 137 115

Sugar Beet (▲)

- * East Bradigham, Norfolk, TF 946 087
- * Ramsey Meadows, Cambridgeshire, grid reference TL 308 903
- * Abbots Ripton, Cambridgeshire, grid reference TL 221 773

- * Coney Weston, Suffolk, grid reference TL 964 785
- * Horningsoft, Norfolk, grid reference TF 932 238
- * Titchfield, Norfolk, grid reference TF 896 208
- * Stow Bedon, Norfolk, grid reference TL 964 965
- * Friskney Tofa, Lincolnshire, grid reference TF 506 542
- * Ruston, Norfolk, TM 128 828

Edder Bass (✚)

- * Kelsey, Suffolk, grid reference TL 966 424
- * Ulleskelf, Yorkshire, grid reference SE 522 389
- * Newton, Yorkshire, grid reference SE 649 841

Already, at least two farmers have pulled out of the Farm Scale Trials - one at Ulleskelf in Yorkshire and another at Fiskney Tofa in Lincolnshire.

...the Monthly Round up of
Ecological, and Other, Direct
Action from Around Britain

Earth First! is not a cohesive group or campaign, but a loose-knit banner for people who share similar principles to work under. The general principles behind the event are non-hierarchical organisation and the use of direct action to confront, stop and eventually reverse the forces that are responsible for the destruction of the Earth and its inhabitants.

The EF! AU is written by activists as a networking tool for activists. A different collective takes on its editorship for a year at a time, in line with EF!'s non-hierarchical principles. If you have done an action, set up a new group, or want to tell people about a campaign, then send us an article (maximum 150 words). It doesn't matter if it seems small to you; stories of 3 people sitting on a digger are sometimes the most inspiring especially to people who aren't part of a large group. The feature pages are also available for longer articles which will provide useful information for activists.

@nti-copyright - Photocopy and distribute

News in Brief

waiting the result of the Town Order application, campaigners continue to occupy a 3 acre piece of land, at Park Nook, Liverpool. All is quiet at the moment which is good because building work on the road could have already gone ahead if the camp wasn't there. Further info 0403 176 279

Undercurrents need your new camcorder footage for 'Global Vices', aimed at building worldwide solidarity against globalisation which has a strangle hold on our planet's resources and communication systems. Please send £68, video 8, SVHS, Betacam SP. DV tapes with your contact details on each tape. Tapes will be copied and returned & the camcorder will keep full copyright. Include an explanation & campaign contact details. Postage costs can be repaid. Contact Paul on 01865 203461 under@gn.apc.org

• The activists from an environmental centre in Valle de Aspe (French Pyrenees) are on hunger strike. A judge ruled that motorway construction activities on a very disputed part of the route can continue, and there's an immediate threat of eviction of the centre (likely to be on 20th April). Rice police, for years permanently present in the valley, can hardly wait, their hands are itching already. atalanta@sknoware.fr La Goutte d'Eau, Maison de la Montagne, 64490 Cote-Eygan, France. tel: 00-33-5-59-34-78-33

• Batch EPI Have blockaded the office of Projectgroup Behnroose, interfering with the work of people planning the largest European freight-mill project. One said, "This is the first action of our Spring offensive against capitalism. We're working in preparation of May 1", the next global anticapitalist day of action. Then EPI And other groups will show some radical resistance."

• The Regulation of Investigatory Powers (RIP) Bill will force Internet Service Providers to build "interception capabilities" into their systems. When served with an "interception warrant" they will have to intercept private email and deliver its contents to the police or various intelligence agencies, or face a jail sentence. More info. <http://www.gn.apc.org/activists/>

• A group called "Free Seed Liberation" has admitted to destroying 190 genetically modified pineapples valued at more \$100000 during a break-in at a private testing facility in Brisbane. <http://www.jackson.org>

• In Sydney, Australia, 3000 people had a moving street party which blockaded various different roads for hours.

• Inwell Valley Earth First! is a new group being set up in and around Salford

University, so if you study, live or work in Salford and fancy a bit of "no compromise in defence of the earth" style action, get in touch.

Reads Round Essex

At the end of February, the protest site at Hackley was finally evicted. The Campaign Against Sitty Homes (CASEH) had camped at the site since July 1999 to stop sitty luxury homes being built on 11 acres of wood, scrub and common land. Contractors built extra fences around the camp, (having already tried to starve camp residents out by cutting off food supplies) and began felling trees, despite a legal agreement that they wouldn't. One protester was arrested after he was cut down from a tree, another was arrested under the Trade Union Act for 'stopping a man from using his tools' (throwing himself in front of the chainsaw), but his son had the charge dropped. Ironically, an appeal pending came up in March and the judge decreed that the contractors didn't own the land when they tried to evict protesters last October, which meant that the contractors had to pay court and legal costs for that appeal.

Goose Wood protest camp has been evicted after protesters spent a record 40 days and 40 nights in tunnels underground, delaying road building and costing Countyroute plc (a consortium of road-builders Leung) large amounts of money. The A130 6-lane link road being built there will destroy meadow, woodland and an environmentally sensitive area.

Recently another protest camp has been set up in Essex this time it is against Wilson Homes (Eastern Limited). They want to build an urban development, in a rural area, of 73 houses at Golden Cross Road, Ashington near Southend. The local residents have objected to the problems it will cause, flooding, traffic congestion, the likely effects on wildlife etc. The residents have registered the site under the Commons Registration Act 1965, so there is now an inquiry into this and the local Council has the plan for the public to inspect. Despite this, the developers wanted to clear the site so protesters have occupied the area to save the trees. The developers spent a lot of money boarding up a bungalow, but it has been occupied anyway as these with a spare key in the garage! Contact the Protest Camp on 0783319195 for Golden Cross Road Action Group 01702 541267

Invasion of the Daily Mail

Lesbian and gay activists invaded the London offices of the homophobic Daily Mail this month. The paper supports the retention of some of the most viciously homophobic legislation in Europe, the infamous "Section 28", which forbids the "promotion of homosexuality" by local authorities.

Two activists chained themselves to the paper's main newsroom, while three others took over the main atrium of the building, displaying banners and sounding horns in the presence of hundreds of office workers from the Mail and the London Evening Standard. One of them chained herself to a railing and had to be cut free. Outside, a third group of 20 protesters organised an impromptu queer street festival. <http://bak.spc.org/bogofestus>

The Ultimate Challenge?

Refugees from Fairmile and Newbury have been spotted putting up treehouses in Bocoara forest near Northcliffe SW Australia as the magnificent old growth karri trees.

Bunauings/Sodico LTD of Perth, Australia are clearfelling 46 hectares a day of virgin karri/jarrah and marn trees. Most of these are converted to woodchips and exported to Japan to be turned into cardboard boxes to house consumer goods. Some of the timber is also exported to the UK (especially railway sleepers for Railtrack). Please boycott any timber coming from Western Australia.

Help is needed over here. Homes and modest financial support are available for experienced tree protesters (sappers) and tunnel experts. These are the second tallest trees on the planet and the tallest platforms are 45 metres (130 feet) high up. This is the ultimate challenge for adrenaline starved tree people who fancy doing some hardcore protesting in pristine wilderness areas. murclemc@hotmail.com

Enjoyment Zone

Bristol Benefits Action Group turned their local Labour Party offices into an 'Enjoyment Zone' to protest about the introduction of Employment Zones, the cutting of benefits to asylum seekers, the extension of New Deal and to have some fun! Homeless workers were offered the chance to join in the fun as activists played party games. The occupation lasted half an hour, & the group went off to leaflet the local job centre to explain the action to claimants. jobsfight@onetel.com



Refugees are not criminals

Seven activists from **ARROW** were arrested at Oakington Detention Centre near Cambridge, on its first day of operation (20th March), after blockading the entrance to prevent asylum seekers from being interned there. The seven were arrested for highway obstruction after sitting in the gateway to the site.

The Detention Centre - situated on an old army base - is designed to hold 400 asylum seekers and will increase by 50% Britain's capacity for detaining asylum seekers. It is envisaged that claimants will be held only for about seven days while their claims are considered, but asylum figures show that in 45% of claims an initial decision takes six months or longer.

The Home Office describes Oakington as a 'reception centre' for asylum seekers. However, according to Amnesty International, 'Oakington's principal aim is - by means of summary referrals, inadequate access to legal advice and the threat of longer-term detention elsewhere pending any appeal - to compel asylum seekers within days of arrival'. One of those arrested said, 'Asylum seekers should be offered compassion and support instead. Britain offers imprisonment and a swift refusal of asylum claims. This is fundamentally unjust and we are committed to opposing that policy'. Since the opening, 6 asylum seekers have escaped. Police said they are not looking for them as they haven't committed any crime. Perhaps the police could pass that information on to Jack Straw!

Recruiting for Death

A national engineering recruitment fair held in Birmingham recently was host to many leading UK arms organisations, including British Aerospace, GEC, Lucas and DERA. 12 activists dressed eerily and entered the heavily policed fair to hand out leaflets, hold up banners and chat to people attending the fair. Two people climbed onto the roof and unfurled a banner saying, 'Recruiting Today The UK Death Trade'. One person was arrested for holding a bottle of fake blood, but was later released without charge. The demonstration continued outside and the next day, with a die-in outside the main entrance and an alternative careers stall. The response from people attending was on the whole very positive.

The next engineering recruitment fair is in Bristol on the 7th and 8th of April. For more information contact recruitmentinfo@yahoo.co.uk

Edinburgh

The proposed 'upgrading' of the A701 is in fact an entirely new road which will destroy miles of green belt to the south of Edinburgh. The plan is opposed by many communities, including locals fighting under the name NAAG (No Alignment Action Group).

The 2.5 mile dual carriageway will have several massive roundabouts, some with flyovers, and will cut through small communities changing their way of life forever. It will also destroy an SSSI as well as the fragile habitats of protected species and local wildlife. It breaks dozens of local and national policies on roadbuilding, green belt use, environment, transport policy, out of town developments and wildlife protection. Contact Joan on 01948 675 169 or get the full story with illustrations of the road from the NAAG website.

<http://www.spokes.org.uk/naag/>

Stop the Star Wars!

Around 500 people attended a demonstration at Menwith Hill American Spy Base in the Yorkshire Dales. Menwith Hill is the largest US spy base in the world, from which the US top-secret intelligence service can eavesdrop on all telecommunications in the Northern Hemisphere, including e-mail, telephone etc without the knowledge of the user. The demo had a Star Wars theme to highlight the militaristic finance planned by the 'evil empire', also known as the USA. Menwith Hill is expanding to become a relay station for the US National Defence system which will intercept and shoot down missiles. This is in breach of international treaties and will lead to an escalation of the arms race.

Protestors, some dressed as Luke Skywalker, Darth Vader, Chewbacca, Jedi knights and other characters from the T V programme Star Wars, heard speeches by comedian Mark Thomas and the local mayor (!?), then marched around the perimeter of Menwith Hill. Many broke the illegal byelaws by walking across land owned by the base.

For more information about how Big Brother listens to you, contact Yorkshire CND on 01274 710795

The Editors of the Earth First! Action Update do not intend to encourage people to carry out any illegal action. The Action Update is for information purposes only.

Stop Arms Investment!

Students occupied the roof of Liverpool University for an hour in protest against the university's direct investment in GEC and GNR arms companies. Attempts to occupy a meeting taking place inside the university to discuss 'university business' were thwarted by security and police who prevented the demonstrations from entering. The students have demanded that the Liverpool's University un-entire in the arms trade should be withdrawn and placed on the agenda for discussion.

Mumia Must Live!

Demonstrations took place all over the world on International Day of Action for Mumia Abu-Jamal, a journalist and activist who has spent over 17 years on Death Row in the USA for a crime he didn't commit.

Huge international protests have delayed his execution in the past, but now he is threatened again. A stay of execution is due to run out between the end of March and the start of April. This is Mumia's last chance for justice, and the international campaign is increasing pressure on the American state to prevent his execution.

In Britain, just under 1000 people took part in the march and rally at Trafalgar Square, London.

150 activists and human rights campaigners marched through Broadmead shopping centre in Bristol. Protesters took place outside of two McDonald's restaurants, the Disney Shop and in one of the shopping centre's main meeting points. Music was provided by a local samba band and flyers and information were distributed to the public.

In Newcastle, one person was arrested after a rally at which an American flag was burnt as a symbol of oppression and of institutionalised racism within the penal system in the USA. The ashes of the flag were sent to the American Embassy, along with letters calling for the release of Mumia. Around 50 people then marched to Benetton who recently launched an advertising campaign using Death Row prisoners.

Demonstrations also took place in Birmingham, Coventry, Liverpool, Manchester, Nottingham and Sheffield.

For more info: tel 020 7538 5621 or see www.mumia.org



Guerilla

Guerilla Gardening is not a form of protest, however like many forms of protest Guerilla Gardening can empower the individual to be resourceful and self-reliant and to become a conscious part of the solution to many problems which face us both locally and globally.

If we are to ever truly take control over our lives then learning to produce our own food (DIY food production & distribution) is essential. Shaping and nurturing our surrounding environment is among the most powerful of symbols for starting to break free of the cycle of supply and demand, liberating us from the role of passive consumers dependent on the biological and social monoculture of our urban spaces and alienated from a real understanding of the nature of the world around us and the most important aspects of our day to day survival.

Of course the first prerequisite for growing our own food is land, the acquisition of which is financially beyond the means of most of us. With a lack of control of the land one of the greatest things most people have lost is a feeling of place and rootedness. Land has been commodified with exclusive property rights, distancing communities from their spaces. Capitalist-consumer culture severely limits our connection with the world, transforming us into consumers with minimal involvement in the growing of food and the management of previously common land.

However there are always liberated spaces existing outside of state space in which we can experiment in and work with. By taking control of growing our food and gardening, alternative visions and solutions can be put in place which seek to reduce the discords, artificiality, pollution, parasitic nature and ugliness of the urban environment. This is not about living a utopian or reclusive lifestyle but about personal development, education, and emphasising the need to reclaim our food and land resources from unsustainable practices. However, Guerilla Gardening is more than a land reclamation project, it also makes use of under-used or unused land, resources and skills.

What is required is the application of a little vision to the land around your railway embankments, golf courses, carparks, overgrown bits of land at the work place etc. Then give a little thought to the surreptitious sowing of seeds - the only limits are those of your

imagination! Herbs thriving on poor soils could be grown among thistles, rose bay willow herbs and boddle on desolate sites, a little known hole in a fence could give access to the local rich bastard's grounds - sow your seeds here among the undergrowth or venture further and indulge in some scrumping. How about the flower beds that adorn your town centre? You could grow your crops right in the heart of the consumer landscape.

Such secret gardens could be maintained with the minimum amount of effort, small amounts of compost carried in bags and weeds could be largely left alone as they provide camouflage for your activities. A morning's tour of a few camouflaged crops could supply you with a week's worth of crops, especially if you take advantage of all the free food that grows wild - nettles, ramsons (wild garlic), dandelions, chickweed, nuts and berries and some mushrooms and fungi.

With increasing concern over the safety of chemically saturated industrialised food and especially the health, environmental and economic effects of GM foods, a desire to decrease dependence on large-scale producers controlling our diets, an attempt to reduce food miles, and exploitative means of production and in an act of personal responsibility, a desire for greater self-sufficiency and to create local 'growing spaces' within the city, what is stopping us all from becoming one of the many human colonists rooting in the cracks and crevices of the disintegrating city and digging for revolution?



Gardening



May Day Plans

This year on May Day, in London, Reclaim the Streets is planning a mass Guerrilla Gardening action. Armed with trowels, seeds and imagination the plan is to set on board an urban adventure at the threshold of nature and culture and garden everywhere and anywhere.

Picture thousands of Guerrilla Gardeners, they have come to take back what was once theirs, to transform, a symbol of capitalism, to return urban landscapes to their real usefulness - as provider of food, as public space where people meet face to face, discuss and participate directly in the remaking of their own city.

Come along and come prepared to get your hands dirty. Bring with you everything you need to make a Guerrilla Garden: a sapling, vegetable seedlings, flowers, herbs, subvert the packaging of capital: turn designer trainers into plant pots, traffic cones into hanging baskets...

You also need more seeds to give out before the action and on the day. Seeds are especially easy to liberate from places e.g. B&Q, Homebase, Woolworths, and some supermarkets.

RTS has a whole wish list of stuff they need for the action and various ways you can get involved. Contact: 0171 281 4621.

<http://www.reclaimthestreets.net/>
> www.reclaimthestreets.net

For more details on guerrilla gardening check websites <http://www.primalseeds.org> or www.primalseeds.org

FOR THIS EVENT MEET 11am
1/5/00 PARLIAMENT SQUARE,
LONDON



START SOWING THE SEEDS NOW

If you've never done it before, here's how:

Pop the seeds in some seed compost (not essential but helps - most good soil does the job for most seeds), water a little, give them loads of light, inside the home on a warm window sill if possible and wait for them to germinate. With some it helps to pop a piece of plastic over them with an elastic band to secure but take it off once they've germinated. If they're in small containers transfer them to bigger pots. Almost anything can be used as a pot as long as it has drainage holes. Then water them a little more, watch them grow and make sure they don't die before May Day. Happy planting.

If you're not into the idea of Guerrilla Gardening after all that... The idea for Mayday is that lots of autonomous actions will happen all over the country, and in London there will be lots of autonomous actions going on all day elsewhere throughout the day.

There are numerous possibilities for autonomous actions including land, housing and squatting issues, various Capitalist enterprises, women's issues, animal rights, prisons, asylum seekers etc.

So far stuff is happening in Brighton (contact local group), Bristol (contact bristolmayday@angelfire.com or PO Box 13, 82 Colston St, Bristol BS1 5BB) Also in Sheffield, Manchester & Southampton and others too! (contact local groups for details) In London there's a Critical Mass cycle ride on Friday (6pm Southbank) and on Sat-Sun 29-30 April there's a conference with bookfair, film, workshops and discussions on everything from war to sexuality, prehistory to the internet (10-6pm Resource Centre 356 Holloway Road, London N7, nearest tube Holloway Road) Sunday 30th April there's the A30 'event' in opposition to the Terrorism Bill (this is not an action.) A "Class of 2000" photo will be taken- come dressed for direct action (2pm Highbury Fields nearest tube Highbury & Islington, London, 0161 226 6814) On Mayday in London there's also a solidarity action for the Italian revolutionaries who have been framed (meet @ 11am Bond Street Tube Station)

Prisoners Update

This is a more comprehensive list than usual. This duplicates some details in earlier issues, but we feel an update like this is needed as prisoners are sometimes forgotten and don't get written to. More addresses and details of prisoner support groups available from Earth Liberation Prisoners Network, BM Box 2487, London WC1N 3XX.

J18 prisoners:

Robert Thadon #12112716, O S P 2505
She St. Salem, OR 97310, USA.
Christopher Smith #1570034, 101 W 5th
Eugene, OR 97401, USA, (German)
Kiddo Bayes D7236, HMP Brixton, Jobb Ave,
London SW2 5XZ
Sean Brown SP5610, HMYOI Ashfield,
Sharnford Rd., Rucklesheath, Bristol
BS168, Y
Jeff Stocker DN7021, HMP Elmley,
Eastchurch, Sheerness ME12 4DZ
Stuart Tokes DN7072, HMP Brixton
Thomas Wall FF4431, HMP Belmarsh,
Western Way, Thameshead, London SE28
CEB
Jon Barnett FB5536 HMYOI Bedford Rd
Fetham, TW13 4ND

Animal Liberation Prisoners:

Aaron Rudin, P B 43, 5726 Vaksdal, Norway
(10 months for arson on abattoir)
And Eriksen, Awd P B 230, Nyborg, 5671
Bergen, Norway (8 months for arson on seal
lenses)
(Both of the above expecting parole fairly
soon.)
Justin Samuel, Hasselt Prison,
Mellebeke 42, 3500, Hasselt, Belgium.
(Awaiting extradition to USA for alleged
release of milk from fat farms.)
Tony Humphries AP7665, HMP Swale-side,
Braceon Rd, Eastchurch, Sheerness, Kent
ME12 4DZ. (Serving 7 and 2 years
concurrently.)
Gregg Avery of the Stop Huntingdon Animal
Cruelty campaign has been jailed for 4
months for allegedly threatening to kill a HUS
volunteer. He is at HMP Bedford St, Lyles St
Bedford, B40 1HG. Prison number unknown.

Berry Home VC2141 has recently been
moved to HMP Belmarsh Western Way,
Thameshead, London SE28 CEB
Neil Broughton DY8216 has been moved to
HMP The Mount, Molesey, Avenue,
Bewendon, Hants HP3 6NZ
Hans HP3 6NZ

Other prisoners:

Mikko Vahonen is a conscientious objector
who has refused to do military service on the
grounds that it violates his vegan ethics.
Suomenlinnankatu, Suomenlinna C 60
00190 Helsinki, Finland

Leonard Pellet #86037-132, PO Box 1000,
Leavenworth, KS 66048, USA, an American
Indian activist serving double life for the
alleged murder of 2 FBI agents. Despite
recent problems, Leonard is now receiving
medical attention and thanks are sent to all
who wrote on his behalf to the appropriate
authorities.

Silvano Pellissaro, Address unknown
Sentenced in Feb 2000 for alleged
involvement in sabotage of rail line
construction in Italian Alps. Solved Mario
Rozas and Edoardo Massari died while in
custody awaiting trial for same acts

Helen Woodson, 03231-045 RMC Carswell,
POB 27137 Admin Unit, Fort Worth, TX
76127 USA, sentenced to 27 years for
demanding money with a fake gun, then
burning the money, denouncing corporate evil
while doing so. Also convicted of sending
letters to corporate officials and of
Ploeghschare's alleged damage to nuclear
missile silo. Expected release 2005.

Robert H Winsor Standing Deer #640288,
Peak Unit One 2400 Wallace Peak Rd
Newcastle, TX 77868, USA. Life in prison after
he exposed a government plot to kill Leonard
Pellet

Lenny Chewer c/o SAIC PO Box 26703,
Oakland CA 94684 USA, AIM activist.
Sentenced for injuring, in self defence, an
Aryan group member who assaulted him

Dennis Bruce Walker MRQ45312, PO Box
656, Grafton 2460, NSW Australia. Aboriginal
activist jailed for incident related to protection
of Ancient Aboriginal site

Action Diary

April

All month - World Month for Lab Animals
1-7 Resistance is Fertile Week of Action
against GM foods - www.
Resistanceisfertile.com
1 Aldermaston Women's Camp. Contact
07808 553778
2 CND Picnic: RAF Croughton Contact
Oxford 726441
3 April Fools Day Parade Against Terrorism
Bill Manchester Contact 0161 226 6814
4 Is the Base Footproof? Demo at Foulness
Nuclear Base. Contact 01436 820901
5 Nationwide leafleting of betting shops in
protest against Grand National. Contact
Animal Aid 01732 364546
6 Critical Mass Newcastle Meet 5.15pm
Haymarket.
8 "Taking Control" event, 1 in 12 club,
Bradford 10-5pm, followed by discoing
Workshop on practical steps towards taking
control of your life. Contact 01274 734 160
22 World Day for Lab Animals National
Demo at Huntingdon Life Sciences,
vivisection labs. Contact 0121 632 6660
29-30 Mayday 2000 Conference

May

1 Mayday 2000 International Workers' Day
Contact BM Mayday, London WC1N 3XX,
tel. 020 8374 5037
4 Day of Action against Bae systems
Contact CAAT 020 7281 0297
18-25 Aldermaston Trident Ploughshares
2000 camp Contact 01524 880 744

June

3 First ever Mass Moon, 3pm Buckingham
Palace. Contact
moveagainstanwar@hotmail.com
7-11 Earth First Summer Gathering, North
Wales
Contact summergathering@yahoo.com
Norwich Direct Action Forum PO Box 487,
NR2 1AF

Terrorists?

Events and actions are taking place all
over in opposition to the Terrorism Bill
which had its third reading on the 15th
March, and is due to get royal assent
very soon

In Brighton, a squatted community
center was opened for two weeks.
Upstairs, there was a stage for various
performances, including 'Genetically
Modified Children' for kids.
Downstairs were a sitting area, leaflet
display, exhibition space, kitchen, kid's
play area and a video room where
action vids were shown. Various events

took place each day, including
discussions, slideshows, a direct action
conference, theatre, bands, DJ's,
cabaret, and 'Terrorist Blind Date' (??).
Free tea, coffee and a 'terrorist' dish of
the day were available, and the
atmosphere inside the centre was really
good.

In Manchester, an April Fool's Day
Parade is happening to celebrate
resistance and make a mockery of the
Terrorism Bill

In Newcastle, 20 people did a 15 mile
march from the grave of north east

Suffragette Emily Davison to a statue
of Joseph Cowen (champion of
workers rights at home and revolution
abroad), to celebrate the radical history
of the north east, and highlight the
people who could have been and will
be criminalized by the Terrorism Bill
Protestors who were dressed as
Suffragettes, GM protesters, ANC
supporters, striking workers etc,
included former miner Dave Douglas,
human rights campaigners, direct
actioners, Trident Ploughshares and
others.

Fancy protesting in Ireland?

The Glen of the Downs Nature Reserve Vigil (in it's third year) continues. Glen Guardians were told by Duchas [the Government Heritage Department] that the camp building would be soon pulled down. The campaign continues in every way possible, and the Glen needs a new generation! Many activists have been fined to the sideline with injunctions hanging over their heads, so new faces are needed to go to the Glen for a day or two, or as long as you want.

At the end of February, five female and eight male protesters were ordered to attend the High Court to answer allegations of breaching an injunction not to interfere with the work of Wicklow County Council and not to trespass on Council land.

The Council asked the Judge for a new form of Undertaking, requiring an oath to not interfere with works, and not trespass on Council land, and not "to enter any of the adjoining lands occupied by Duchas comprising a nature reserve which is now closed to the public". Despite protest by their Counsel, the Judge insisted that they either swear to that Undertaking, or be sent to prison. They unanimously refused, and were jailed. Some later signed the undertaking and were released, but 4 remain in prison. Please write to Tony Baird, Dennis Woolf and Hugh MacLochlainn who are all in Cloverhill Prison, Clonsilla, Dublin 22, Ireland, and Diana Fraser (a German national) who is in Mountjoy Women's Prison, North Circular Road, Dublin, Ireland.

For info, or directions to the camp, contact glenofthedowns@ireland.com

Fidelity Investments- Staked in Genocide

Activists from Manchester Earth First! have taken action in support of the Uva people who are fighting against Oxy oil drilling on their sacred lands in Colombia. On Friday 17th March, eight people cycled round on the UK northern regional offices of Fidelity Investments [a major shareholder of Oxy], with a few choice words to put forward about the situation in Colombia. Staff at the office were caught completely by surprise as suited up executives suddenly wandered the office, looking on to delicate computer equipment and reorganizing a few filing systems. For some reason the office manager called the Police who sped around en masse, arriving within five to ten minutes. Four police vans parked up outside the innocuous-looking building and 16 TAG officers jumped out onto King's Street in the centre of Manchester's financial district, attracting a lot of attention. Other activists held up a banner outside the building denouncing Fidelity, and handed out Rainforest Action Network leaflets, along with some home made Fidelity shares in grief, pain, suicide, war, Uva land, rainforest and genocide. The protesters were finally ejected from the building after about an hour and a half, with one arrest (for hiding in a stationary cupboard and wedging a rubber stop under the door) and leaving behind a dismantled computer monitor and stand <http://www.smc.co.uk/ef/>

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For the last 15 years, the local people have fought against the Itaipu dam, in the Basque Country. The dam is destructive to nature, a danger to public safety, socially and culturally destructive, and surrounded by a web of governmental cover-ups. The local people brought the case to the Supreme Court of Spain, which ruled that the dam was illegal. However, the construction of the dam continues to this day.

Members of the Solidarios can hear are touring Europe protesting against the dam. They recently scaled the dome of St Peter's in the Vatican. Also, the opening ceremony of the World Water Forum, in The Hague was completely disrupted half an hour after its beginning. Two members of Solidarios can hear jumped on to the stage where Abu-Zaid, Chairman of the World Water Council was giving his inaugural speech. The two protesters, who were wearing only painted slogans, handcuffed themselves to each other while shouting slogans against the Itaipu Dam and water privatisation. Security guards removed them violently, while Abu-Zaid tried to carry on as if nothing was happening!

A 3rd protester chained herself to a chair, while a fourth person hung from the balcony of the hall showing a banner that said: NO TO WATER PRIVATIZATION. Another naked protester emerged from the audience and yet another climbed a wall to hang a banner reading 'SOS ITIOU'.

Six members of the group were arrested, and have now been released. Neither the politicians' speeches nor the performing ladies managed to attract the audience's attention away from the Solidarios can hear, and their message was heard loud and clear. <http://www.1-a-2-3-2002.org.uk>

Apologies to those without email for only receiving email contacts on some articles. We try and include phone numbers whenever possible.

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